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RCC | Redcliffe Computer Club

NEWSLETTER November 2021

Report from your President

Hi Everybody,

Welcome to November and a few important issues to check out.

Firstly, we bid a sad farewell to Ive Rodrigues. She has been a great tutor and we will all miss her. She has had to move and is now too far away to continue tutoring. Maybe she will move back again someday

November is AGM month. We have programmed our important meeting for [Tuesday 9th November at 1.30pm](#). It will be conducted at our rooms in Irene Street. All executive positions will be declared vacant and members are offered the chance to propose members to fill all positions. Where there is more than one person nominated for a particular role, members are then offered a vote to decide which person is nominated. We have 8 positions to fill. Be nice to see a good number of our members show interest in the club management.

Copy of last years AGM Minutes: [Minutes of last years \(2020\) AGM](#)

Christmas Party. As many of you would be aware, we did not have a members Christmas party last year due to severe Covid restrictions. Many were disappointed.

We have decided to arrange for this event to happen again this year. We have space reserved for a large group at **The Sebel Hotel** on Margate Parade on [Friday December 10th @ 12.30pm](#).

In previous years we have collected money from members and pre-arranged a choice of 2 different meals. This disappointed some folk. This year, we have left it open. Choose from the menu and pay separately for your meal. I am told there will be a special Christmas menu as well as choice from a standard menu. We now have well over 300 members and the [hotel needs to know the numbers of people intending to come](#). As such, would you please advise our admin by phone on 3203 5593 or by email at office@rsc.com.au if you wish to participate. We will advise the hotel of numbers.

We will also send a copy of the menu to all people that indicate their wish to attend. When you receive that, can you please [advise us of your preferred meal choice](#) so hotel can try to deliver meals to all guests without too much delay. This is only a guide and can be changed if necessary at the time.

Covid Vaccination app - The response to our workshop on this subject has been somewhat overwhelming. As such, we have arranged for 2 workshops and both of these are now full. Anyone that missed out on the workshops, who still wishes to learn how to install this app on their phone will now need to book an appointment with a tutor for a one hour lesson to get it done. As we only have about 6 weeks until we close for our Christmas break, I would suggest you make a booking asap. I think many who attend the workshops will also need appointments to get the app installed. It is somewhat difficult. All of our tutors will be able to help here so just book with anyone available. We are getting enquiries from many sources asking for help here so I just hope we can handle it all in the limited time we have left.

One last mention re laptops. We have 4 left at the price of \$675, fully setup. Any new ones to come after these are gone will be substantially more expensive. If you mean to purchase one in the near future, I'd suggest you grab one of these while you can.

All for this month. Hope to see you at the AGM and Christmas get-together.

Ian Stewart - President.

Is your Computer Slow, or is your Internet Slow?

A common problem I hear throughout my week is "My computer is slow." I finally learned to ask, "Is your computer slow, or is your Internet slow?" The computer user usually pauses, thinks and often responds that it is his or her Internet that is slow; not the computer.

When I sit down at a client's computer, I can quickly determine the health of a computer based on how quickly I can perform simple tasks like checking background processes, determining how current and what security products are being used, free hard drive space, and how much RAM is installed on the machine. Generally speaking, if a computer was bought any time after 2003, it is probably fast enough for email, Internet, word processing, digital photography, and other basic uses. If all goes well during these probes, I know the computer is doing pretty well, and it's time to check out the Internet.

Internet speed starts with the Internet connection. The fastest connections available in the Australia are fibre optic, followed by cable, a host of other NBN technologies, and finally satellite. You can test your Internet speed by going to [SpeedTest.net](#) (powered by Ookla). Your speed can only be based around what you are paying for. Generally, you will be paying for 25 mbps, 50mbps or 100 mbps (most have either 25 or 50). If you are on an old plan, you may be only getting 12mbps, which in these days is rather slow. Check your bill or ask your internet provider. Online video playback (like You Tube or Netflix) will be choppy, downloading large emails will be slow, and some web sites will load slowly.

Note, too, that high speed Internet can and will slow down as more people jump online at the same time. You might find that your cable connection is slower in the evening hours than during the day...this is because more people are sharing that connection at that time. And with more and more people watching and uploading video online than ever before, our Internet speeds are stressed much more than just a few years ago.

Use these tests to make sure that you are getting near the advertised speed from your Internet provider. If not, you might want to check with them to make sure that there is nothing wrong with your connection from them. Make sure to follow these other recommendations, however, **before** making the call to make sure the problem doesn't reside on your end.

No matter what your Internet speed is, you can maximize it by using a faster, safer browser like Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox. You can also make your Internet (and computer) faster by using a leaner, meaner, yet strong security product like Trend Maximum Security.

Also, your computer and Internet can run faster if you use the free CCleaner utility to keep the computer under control (behind the scenes files that get created but not purged). Better still, make an appointment with our tutoring staff to go over your Laptop or Tablet device.

The next time you think that your computer is getting slow...ask yourself if it is the Internet or the computer itself that is slow. Chances are your Internet connection functions fine, but the Computer is slow.

Who is your Internet provider and what speeds is the speed test yield for you? Are they fast enough for you?

Alan Reeves

Check in Qld - Repeat Visits

When checking in with the Check In Qld app, you don't actually have to scan the code if you have visited this site previously (it remembers your visits). To do this:

- Open the App
- Go to the Top Right-Hand corner click what looks like a circled arrow
- You will see a list of places visited in the past
- Chose the appropriate place you are now visiting
- Click Check in and you are done.



MBRC Request App

The MBRC Customer Service Request app (MBRC request) enables anyone in the Moreton Bay Regional Council area to report matters requiring council's attention to help make the area an even better place to live, work and play.

You can use it to report maintenance needed regarding playground repairs, graffiti or other local issues. Using artificial intelligence, council is able to allocate and respond to your request faster, while keeping you informed on their progress.

Some of the things you can report include:

- Fallen trees
- Potholes
- Footpath damage
- Animal matters
- Park maintenance
- Bin replacement
- Missed collections
- Illegal dumping or missed bin collection.

You can download the MBRC Request app for free from either the:

1. Apple App Store
2. Google Play

Online requests are monitored during business hours. For matters requiring immediate attention, please call Moreton Bay Regional Council on (07) 3205 0555.

Kathy

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